

Session Specific Panel Discussion Questions

Legacy Contaminants

Scope:

- ❖ *Any contaminants ATSDR evaluates at hazardous waste sites or in other exposure scenarios. The discussion is NOT LIMITED to arsenic, cadmium, or the PAHs benzo[a]pyrene and dibenzo [def,p]chrysene.*
- ❖ *Any scientific discipline relevant to ATSDR's (and where applicable NCEH's) environmental health work on legacy contaminants, including the methods or disciplines discussed in this session.*

Questions:

- How would you use the results and methods of the studies presented in your work?
 - How might this research change ATSDR's current health assessments or studies involving these legacy contaminants (cadmium, arsenic, specific PAHs)?
 - Are there limitations that would make this work difficult to apply?
 - Does ATSDR approach this problem differently?
- How might these presenters report their research or different aspects of it to better help you?
 - What data are highly relevant to your problem solving and would probably have been collected to do this work, but not likely to be reported in a journal? What alternative mechanisms might be used to share such data?
 - Sometimes communication between different scientific disciplines is challenging. How might the presenters explain their research (or background about their scientific discipline) more clearly to you so that you can decide if you could use it in your work? Were there particular issues you found confusing?
- How might the presenters tweak their approach or methodologies to better assist you in your work?
- As SRP grantees develop protocols for further research on these topics or other hazardous waste contaminants:
 - What strategies might be used to involve potential end-users (you, ATSDR in general, state partners, or community stakeholders) early?
 - Do you have specific needs you would like SRP investigators to address in forthcoming protocols for new studies?
- Please share examples of ATSDR sites, studies, or projects involving arsenic, cadmium, PAHs (including benzo[a]pyrene and dibenzo[def,p]chrysene) or other legacy contaminants.

Audience questions (via index cards to moderator)

Community Engagement

SRP definition:

Partnerships with members of communities impacted by sites contaminated with hazardous substances. Partnerships may also include community-serving organizations such as: local government groups, Tribal councils, community service groups focused on educating the community about local issues, or non-governmental organizations working closely with a community. There is particular interest in engagement of economically disadvantaged, environmental justice (EJ), and Tribal communities which are severely impacted by sites contaminated with hazardous substances.

Questions:

- How might the presenters tweak their approach or methodologies to better assist you in your work?
- As SRP grantees develop protocols for further community participatory research, community engagement, risk communication methods, or research on social stressors (or social determinants of health) that might contribute to cumulative risk:
 - What strategies might be used to involve potential end-users (you, ATSDR in general, state partners, or community stakeholders) early?
 - Do you have specific needs you would like SRP investigators to address in forthcoming protocols for new studies?
 - Is it important that SRP investigators coordinate with ATSDR regarding their work at hazardous waste sites?
- How would you use the results, methods, or “lessons learned” in these projects in your own work?
 - Are there limitations that would make this work difficult to apply?
 - How does ATSDR approach community engagement, community participatory research, community coalition building, risk communication, or social determinants of health differently?
 - What strategies did SRP use to evaluate community engagement activities and what can ATSDR learn from them? What evidence would convince you that:
 1. a community retained and practiced the recommended steps to reduce exposure?
 2. community coalition actions were effective in changing people’s behavior to lower their risk to chemical exposure (or other goals of the coalitions)?
 - How does SRP provide communities with the resources and tools to sustain their programs after SRP moves on to work at other sites?
 - How did SRP ensure that the activists and coalitions for the community were representative enough to be able to prioritize the hazardous waste issues and concerns? How did they avoid addressing only the concerns of the most vocal?
- ATSDR is often petitioned to become involved in certain communities; however, due to resource constraints we cannot accept all petitions. We now refer to state or other appropriate agencies (if known). Would it be appropriate to tell petitioners about SRP universities as a potential resource?
- Please share examples of ATSDR community participatory research or community engagement. How does ATSDR decide which participatory mechanism will best work in a particular contaminated community?

Audience questions (via index cards to moderator)

Environmental Fate & Transport (including Exposure Assessment)

Scope:

Methods applicable to any contaminants or matrices (e.g., air, water, soil) ATSDR evaluates at hazardous waste sites or in other exposure scenarios. The discussion is NOT LIMITED to mercury, pesticides, chlorinated VOCs, metals, or PAHs.

Questions:

- What issues would need to be considered if ATSDR or NCEH were asked to evaluate contaminant data from the sampling devices presented today (e.g., sensor for elemental mercury, passive “gellyfish” sampler for metals, passive sampling device for pesticides)?
 - What do ATSDR and NCEH consider sufficient validation of these devices before they are used for more than the generation of pilot data?
- Please discuss the situations in which ATSDR does its own sampling and when it relies on EPA generated data.
 - Do the developers of these sampling devices need access from ATSDR (or EPA) at our sites to test their devices?
 - Would any of these sampling devices be helpful in DCHI’s *Exposure Investigations*?
- How would you use the results and methods of the studies presented in your work?
 - How might this research change ATSDR’s current exposure assessments or analysis of potential exposure pathways involving *mercury, pesticides, chlorinated VOCs, metals, or PAHs*?
 - Are there limitations that would make this work difficult to apply?
 - Does ATSDR approach this problem differently?
- How might these presenters report their research or different aspects of it to better help you?
 - What data are highly relevant to your problem solving and would probably have been collected to do this work, but not likely to be reported in a journal? What alternative mechanisms might be used to share such data?
 - Sometimes communication between different scientific disciplines is challenging. How might the presenters explain their research (or background about their scientific discipline) more clearly to you so that you can decide if you could use it in your work? Were there particular issues you found confusing?
- How might the presenters tweak their approach or methodologies to better assist you in your work?
- As SRP grantees develop protocols for further research on these topics or other hazardous waste contaminants:
 - What strategies might be used to involve potential end-users (you, ATSDR in general, state partners, or community stakeholders) early?
 - Do you have specific needs you would like SRP investigators to address in forthcoming protocols for new studies?
- Please share examples of ATSDR sites, studies, or projects involving environmental fate and transport or exposure assessment of contaminants (not limited to mercury, pesticides, chlorinated VOCs, metals, or PAHs) or mixtures.

Audience questions (via index cards to moderator)

Emerging Contaminants

SRP definition:

- ❖ *"High production volume agents with demonstrated potential for human health and environmental impact (e.g., "high priority" for risk-based priority decisions <http://www.epa.gov/hpvis>);*
- ❖ *Chemicals presumed to be toxic based on structural similarity to the CERCLA Priority List of hazardous substances and likely to cause exposures from a point source; and*
- ❖ *Environmental contaminants of emerging interest due to rapidly increasing production volume combined with suspected toxicological and bioaccumulative characteristics or a change in toxicity risk or regulatory status. "*

Questions:

- How do you define an emerging contaminant in the context of ATSDR work?
 - Are there specific chemicals that you consider ATSDR relevant "emerging contaminants?"
- What strategies should ATSDR employ to be able to rapidly and appropriately respond to questions and issues with emerging contaminants? How can the research community assist with this strategy?
- How would you use the results and methods of the studies presented in your work?
 - How might this research change ATSDR's current health assessments or studies involving the emerging contaminants discussed in this session?
 - Are there limitations that would make this work difficult to apply?
 - Does ATSDR approach this problem differently?
- How might these presenters report their research or different aspects of it to better help you?
 - What data are highly relevant to your problem solving and would probably have been collected to do this work, but not likely to be reported in a journal? What alternative mechanisms might be used to share such data?
 - Sometimes communication between different scientific disciplines is challenging. How might the presenters explain their research (or background about their scientific discipline) more clearly to you so that you can decide if you could use it in your work? Were there particular issues you found confusing?
- How might the presenters tweak their approach or methodologies to better assist you in your work?
- As SRP grantees develop protocols for further research on these topics or other hazardous waste contaminants:
 - What strategies might be used to involve potential end-users (you, ATSDR in general, state partners, or community stakeholders) early?
 - Do you have specific needs you would like SRP investigators to address in forthcoming protocols for new studies?
- Please share examples of ATSDR sites, studies, or projects involving the contaminants previously discussed.

Audience questions (via index cards to moderator)